ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

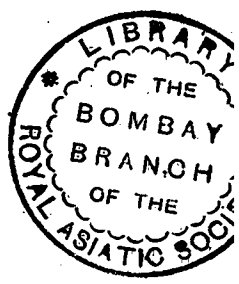
REFORMATORY SCHOOL

AT

YERAVDA

FOR THE

YEAR 1905.



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No. 193 of 1906.

Reformatory School;
Yerávda, 10th February 1906.

From

The SUPERINTENDENT,
Reformatory School, Yerávda;

To

The DIRECTOR of PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,
Bombay Presidency, Poona.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Yerávda Reformatory School for the year ending 31st December 1905.

Number of Juveniles in the School.

2. The year began with 158 boys, of whom 10 were out on license and 148 actually in the school; and 46 boys were received in the course of the year. During the same period 27 boys were discharged owing to expiry of sentence, 9 owing to their having attained the age of 18 years, 2 on petition to Government, one boy was transferred to the Sassoon Reformatory, Bombay and one escaped and has not yet been traced. The number of boys remaining at the end of the year under report was 164, of whom 13 were serving out on licenses, leaving 151 boys actually in the Reformatory. The average monthly number for the year was 149, against 139 for the year preceding. It may be noted that the Reformatory was full throughout the year and as many as 25 enquiries for accommodation from the Magistrates had to be answered in the negative.

Of the 164 boys in the Reformatory on 31st December 1905, as many as 26 were under 10 years of age and 29 were above 10 but below 12 years. Thus fully one-third of the number was too young for a reformatory school and a drag on its usefulness, since nothing more can be done with these children than to keep and feed them. Of the remaining 109 boys, 26 were between 12 and 14 years of age, 71 between 14 and 16 years and 12 above the age of 16 years.

The classification of these 164 boys according to race and religion is as under:—3 Native Christians, 37 Musalmans, 11 Brahmins, 86 Other Hindus, and 27 Low Castes. There was an increase of 22 per cent. in the number of Brahmin boys and of 12 per cent. in the Musalmans. The numbers in the other classes remained the same as in the preceding year.

According to languages the numbers were:—65 Marathis, 49 Gujarathis including 1 Marwari, 19 Hindustanis, 10 Sindhis, 17 Kanarese, 2 Tamils, 1 Telegu and 1 Pushtu. The Hindustani population increased by 5 and the Sindhi by 2, while the number of boys whose vernacular was Marathi went down by 3, the numbers in the other dialects remaining stationary.

Out of the 164 boys in the school, 3 belonged to Nizám's Territory and the remaining 161 to British Territory.

Admissions during the year.

3. None of the 46 boys admitted during the year was above 14 years of age. Three of them were 7 years old, 7 were 8 years old, 18 were 9 years old, 12 were 10 years old, 4 were 11 years old, and only one was 13 and one 14 years of age. Briefly putting, only 6 of the new admissions were fit subjects for a reformatory, and all the remaining, 40 were mere children more to be nursed than to be reformed.

Of these 46 boys, 29 were convicted of theft, 2 of lurking house trespass and theft, 3 of receiving stolen property, 4 of house-breaking by night, 2 of using counterfeit coins, 2 of begging in public streets, 1 of kidnapping, 1 of rape, 1 of dishonest misappropriation of stolen property, and 1 of erasing the post

mark from a post card and using it a second time. The maximum value of stolen property was Rs. 176 in one case and Rs. 170 in another; the amounts in other cases being 1 below Rs. 60, 1 below Rs. 50, 4 below Rs. 20, 10 below Rs. 10, and a like number below Rs. 5.

Eight of the 46 boys have been sentenced to be detained for 3 years, 10 for 4 years, 20 for 5 years, 1 for 5½ years, 3 for 6 and 4 for 7 years.

The City of Bombay contributed 9 out of the 46 admissions, the district of Poona and the city of Surat 6 each, Karachi and Sukkur 3 each, Dharwar, Bijapur, Belgaum, Kolaba, Nasik and Thana 2 each, and Satara, Sholapur, Khandesh, Broach, Kaira, Baroda and Quetta 1 each.

Of the 46 boys, 37 were convicted in the first instance and 9 were habituals, of whom 5 had one previous conviction, 3 had 2 and one 3 previous convictions.

Lastly, of these 46 boys only 6 knew to read and write a little, the rest being totally illiterate.

Conduct and Punishment.

4. The conduct of the boys has been very satisfactory throughout. The number of offences for the whole year was 8 against 13 of the preceding year. These comprised one offence of stealing, one of assaulting a comrade, one of eating *dhatura* seed to induce intoxication, one of insolence to a school officer, two of causing damage to school property and two of possessing forbidden articles. The punishments dealt out were forfeiture of marks in one case, penal diet in another, caning on the hand in 2 cases, reduction from monitorship in 2 others, and flogging in the remaining 2.

Discharged Pupils.

5. Thirty-nine boys were discharged during the year, of whom 10 had been learning carpentry, 7 blacksmith's work, 5 book-binding, 2 painting and varnishing and 13 agriculture. One of the 39, a *Beni Israelite*, was transferred to the David Sassoon Reformatory and two were let off by Government on petition. Out of the remaining 36 boys, 9 have been following the trade learnt in the school, 6 are occupied in other industries, 3 were re-convicted, one is reported to have a bad character, and 5 cannot be traced. Information for the remaining 12 boys has not been received, these having been released less than 6 months ago.

Statement "Reformatory Schools, II" appended hereto furnishes similar information with respect to the boys discharged in the three years preceding the year of report, *viz.*, 1902 to 1904. It will be seen that out of the total of 73 boys discharged, 17, *i. e.*, 23 per cent. against 26 per cent. of the preceding year, remain either untraced or unreported and 2 died. Of the remaining 54 boys, 19 were occupied in the trades taught to them and 29 in other industries, 2 were living with their parents, 3 were re-convicted and the character of one is reported to be not good, the result on the whole being practically the same as it was last year. Of the boys reported upon and now alive, more than 92·5 per cent. were occupied in earning a livelihood by honest labour, the percentage of such boys to the total number discharged being 68·5 against last year's 63·3.

There were 10 boys out on license on the 31st December 1904 and 19 new licenses were issued, making a total of 29 boys serving out on license in the course of the year. Nine of these licenses terminated owing to the expiry of sentence or discharge of the boys from the school and the licenses of 7 boys were cancelled at the desire of the employers, leaving 13 boys out on license on the last day of the year under report.

Of the 7 boys who were returned by their employers, 3 were returned owing to illness, 2 for non-proficiency and 2 for unsatisfactory conduct. One of them had been out for 14 months, 1 for 7, 2 for 4, 1 for 3 and 1 for a month and a half, while one came back within a fortnight after having been licensed out. Of the 9 boys discharged during their term of license, 2 had been out for one year and 7 months, 1 for a year and 2 months, 3 for 9 months, 2 for 7 and 1 for 6 months, all without any complaint or ill report from their employers, 2 of them have remained in the service of their employers after discharge. Of the 13 boys still serving on license, 2 have been out for one year and 3 months, 3 for

8 months and a half, 1 for 7 months, 1 for 6, 4 for 2 and 2 for one month. Five of them are employed in cultivation, 2 in gardening, 2 in a printing press, 2 as carpenters, 1 as a book-binder and 1 as a black-smith.

Marks and Gratuities.

6. The monthly number of boys who earned gratuity by their diligence and good behaviour was 147 and the total amount of gratuity so earned was Rs. 405-3-0 against 131 and Rs. 357-15-6 respectively in the preceding year. The amount disbursed as gratuity to discharged boys was Rs. 312-15-3 against Rs. 176-6-9 in 1904. The numbers of boys discharged during the two years 1905 and 1904 are 39 and 28 respectively, the average earning per boy being Rs. 8 for the current and Rs. 6-4-10 for the preceding year.

Sanitation and Health.

7. The year was a very good one in respect of health. Only 24 cases against last year's 79 were treated in the school hospital, and of these 13 or more than one-half were cases of simple ague. It is satisfactory to note that there was no case of serious illness nor death. The average daily number of sick was ·6 against 1·9 in the preceding year. The late Captain Laing, who as Superintendent of Yerávda Central Prison, was also Medical Officer of the Reformatory and whose untimely death last April is much to be regretted, kept up his visits and his usual interest in this institution up to the last; and the present Acting Superintendent, Captain H. J. R. Twigg, M. B., I. M. S., has also found time notwithstanding his own multifarious duties, to pay frequent visits and attend to our calls on all occasions; and our best thanks are due to him for giving his time and attention to the school so generously.

Building and Accommodation.

8. It has already been mentioned that the Reformatory remained full throughout the year, and that admissions had to be refused in 25 cases to 30 boys. The question of accommodation therefore remains still to be solved. Of the total number of juvenile offenders coming up before the Magistrates in the year 46 were admitted and 30 could not be admitted for want of accommodation. Either therefore extension on a large scale will have to be made to admit of the whole number of juvenile offenders in any one year being accommodated or a limit of age fixed, so that boys who are too young may not be sent up. A second alternative will be to have a separate Reformatory in some central locality, such as Ahmedabad for instance, for all Gujarathi speaking boys and those from Sind, reserving this Reformatory for the Marathi-speaking class and boys whose vernacular may be Kanarese, Tamil, Telegu, etc. A reference to the classification of boys according to their vernaculars given in paragraph 2 will show that the two divisions will be almost equal.

Additional quarters for 2 teachers, 2 peons, gardener and sweeper were completed before the end of the year under report and thus a long-felt want has been supplied. The sinking of a trial-well on the new land which is to be the Reformatory farm in the future was also begun and is nearing completion. As yet, however, there are no indications of water in the well, although a depth of 45 feet has already been reached. The estimate was to sink the well to a depth of 55 feet, so that there are still 10 feet remaining to excavate.

Diet and Clothing.

9. Iron bedsteads were substituted for the hammocks which were so much disliked by the boys. The cost of this change was Rs. 1,563. Another improvement was the introduction of aluminium plates and mugs for boys to eat their meals from and cooking utensils of the same metal at a further cost of Rs. 508.

Industries.

10. The school industries were as in the former years carpentry, black-smith's trade, varnishing, painting, book-binding and agriculture. All the departments were full of work. In book-binding 43,267 books were bound and repaired against 14,630 in the year previous. Most of the work in this depart-

ment was supplied by the Chitra Shala Press and a part by the Indira Press, with a few private orders. The number of carriages repaired and painted was 102 against 73 last year. Ordinary articles of furniture, such as chairs, tables, etc., were also made but they were not many. The total value of the manufactures was Rs. 4,807-15-5 against Rs. 3,100-12-6 in the preceding year. Deducting Rs. 3,350-10-9 on account of the cost of raw material and Rs. 249-10-8 for depreciation of tools and machinery, the net profit from manufactures was Rs. 1,207-10-0 against Rs. 656-7-5 in 1904. The total number of boys engaged in these industries was 126, of whom 35 were learning carpentry, 20 blacksmith's work, 29 painting and varnishing and 37 book-binding.

Agricultural operations comprised flower-gardening and the growing of vegetables and jowari and yielded Rs. 516-15-5 against Rs. 483-9-5 in the year previous. The expenditure on account of fodder, seeds, etc., amounted to Rs. 226-7-0, and the amount to be deducted for deterioration of plant and stock was Rs. 45, leaving a net profit of Rs. 245-8-5 against Rs. 204-4-6. The number of boys engaged in cultivation was 31 and of those in flower-gardening 12. The total net profit from all industries for the year under report was Rs. 1,453-2-5.

As in the preceding years the Reformatory sent some nice exhibits of plants, flowers, fruits and vegetables at the Horti-Agricultural Society's Flower Show and it is highly satisfactory that the school won 3 prizes—one for vegetables and 2 for flowers—of which one, that for cut asters, was a first prize. The Society was pleased to award a special consolidated prize of Rs. 20 to the Reformatory with the object of encouraging flower-gardening among the boys.

Maintenance Charges.

11. The gross maintenance charges for the year amounted to Rs. 19,540-6-4, that is, Rs. 2,772 in excess of those for the preceding year. Of this excess, Rs. 1,568 have already been accounted for in paragraph 9 as spent in providing new bedsteads, and the balance was due to the increase in the population, the average monthly number for the year of report having been higher by 10 than last year's and to slightly higher rates of provisions. Deducting from the above gross amount, Rs. 1,453-2-5 earned as net profit and Rs. 588-4-6 on account of contributions from Native States and Miscellaneous Receipts, the cost to Government for the year 1905 for the upkeep of the Institution amounted to Rs. 17,498-15-5.

Establishment.

12. The strength of the school establishment was the same as in the two preceding years. So also was the method of instruction which may be described briefly as elementary education in vernacular, mainly reading, writing and arithmetic for 3 hours and practice at one of the industries for 4 hours daily, with manual training in wood-work for 4½ and drawing lessons for 2 hours in the week. For the boys' moral improvement the means employed were the exposition and illustration of moral lessons from the text-books, recital of moral and religious poetry every morning and evening, weekly readings from their Scriptures, and private reading of books from the school library in time of leisure. As an additional incentive to good and honest living the practice has been introduced since the preceding year of informing them of the lives led outside by their comrades after discharge from the school.

Education.

13. The school was examined by the Deputy Educational Inspector of Poona on 29th July 1905 and the results were as follows:—Of the 2 boys examined in Standard V, the highest standard taught in this school, both passed in Reading, Writing and Geography and one in Arithmetic. In Standard IV all the 12 boys examined passed in Reading and Writing, 10 in Geography and 9 in Arithmetic. Out of the 15 boys examined in Standard III all passed in Reading and Writing and 14 in Arithmetic. In Standard II 27 out of 29 examined passed in Reading, 26 in Arithmetic and 25 in Writing; and in Standard I, of the 33 boys examined, 23 passed in Reading, 27 in Writing and 29 in Arithmetic. Of the 35 boys in the Infant Class 18 were advanced and of the 91 boys examined in Standards I to V, 64 passed in all heads. The work of the

Gujarathi teacher, Maganlal Ranchhodbhai and the 2nd Assistant, G. V. Lohakare was declared good and that of the senior master, Shripad Waman as excellent.

Exercise and Recreation.

14. This school played 7 cricket matches in the last Poona season, of which they won 4 and 1 was a drawn game. One hour daily in the afternoon was devoted to games and gymnastic exercises. The boys were also sent out occasionally for a walk or sight-seeing. For instance, during the year under report they were led out to witness the New Year's Parade, the Ganpati and Tabut immersions, the Flower Show at the Empress Gardens and the Diwali illuminations.

Visiting Committee.

15. The ordinary meetings of the Visiting Committee for the monthly inspection of the school were all held regularly. Mr. R. D. Prior, Educational Inspector, Central Division, paid 7 visits in all; Major J. Jackson, Acting Inspector-General of Prisons, Dr. A. W. Thomson, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, College of Science and Inspector of Technical Education, Bombay Presidency, and R. B. Sitaram Vishwanath Patwardhan, 6 each; Sirdars Nowrosji Padamji and Coopooswami V. Mudliar and Khan Saheb Dorabji Dadabhai Boottee, 4 each; Captain H. J. R. Twigg, Acting Superintendent, Yerávda Central Prison, 3 as official visitor of the Reformatory and over a dozen in his capacity of Medical Officer since May last; and Mr. L. C. Swifte, late Collector of Poona, Mr. T. D. Fry, late District Judge, and Mr. C. Kincaid, the present District Judge of Poona paid one visit each. I ought not to omit your own visits to the school now and again, alone as well as in company of other high officials. Among these were the late Surgeon-General W. Maconaghy, M. D., I. M. S., Lieutenant-Colonel O. H. Channer, M.B., I. M. S., Sanitary Commissioner, and the Honourable Mr. E. M. H. Fulton, C. S. I. His Excellency Lord Lamington, Governor of Bombay, accompanied by the Members of his Council, the Honourable Sir James Monteath and the Honourable Mr. E. M. H. Fulton, C. S. I., visited the school on 5th July 1905, and after going round the buildings, workshops, hospital, dormitories, etc., went pleased, remarking that the Institution had the appearance of being well conducted and the boys looked well.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

N. M. PAJNIGAR,

Superintendent.

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REFORMATORY SCHOOLS, I.

Schools	1
Pupils.	
At the beginning of the year	158
Admitted during the year	46
Discharged during the year	38
Transferred during the year	1
Escaped during the year	1
Remaining at the end of the year	164
Education on admission.	
Able to read	18
Illiterate	146
Religion.	
Hindus	124
Mahomedans	37
Native Christians	3
Instruction.	
Taught agriculture	43
Taught other industries	121
Net expenditure	Rs. 17,498-15-5

REFORMATORY SCHOOLS, II.

After-conduct of boys discharged during the three years preceding the year of report.

(1) Total number discharged in the three years	73
(2) Number discharged who were taught agriculture	33
(3) Number in entry (2) occupied in agriculture	10
(4) Number who were taught other trades and handicrafts... ...	40
(5) Number in entry (4) occupied in the trades and handicrafts taught them	9
(6) Occupied in industries not taught them at school . { Agriculture ...	.....
{ Other industries.	29
(7) Unemployed or with friends	2
(8) Re-convicted	3
(9) Of bad character	1
(10) Died	2
(11) Not known or not reported on	17

REFORMATORY SCHOOL:
Yerávda, 10th February 1906.

N. M. PAJNIGAR,
Superintendent.

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